

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 26, through page 6, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A special GPC instrument does not have to be used, and a commercial GPC instrument can be used. The concentration of oxygen in the measurement atmosphere upon measurement by the GPC instrument is preferably not higher than 100 ppm, more preferably not higher than 10 ppm. Such a measurement atmosphere can be prepared easily by, for example, placing the GPC instrument in a sealed environment such as a glove box. Illustrative examples of a column filler at the time of measurement include a polystyrene based filler, such as a styrene-divinyl benzene copolymer based filler, a polymethacrylate based polymer filler, a silica gel based filler, a dextran based filler and a porous glass based filler. Of these, the polystyrene based filler is preferred, and the styrene-divinyl benzene copolymer based filler is particularly preferred. Illustrative examples of a solvent to be used include toluene, o-xylene, m-xylene, p-xylene, cis-decalin, trans-decalin, benzene, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, n-pentane, n-hexane, n-heptane, n-octane, tetrahydrofuran, and diethyl ether, ~~and methylene chloride~~. Of these, toluene is particularly preferred. The solvent is preferably degassed upon use to a dissolved oxygen content of 10 ppm or lower, more preferably 0.5 ppm or lower. Further, it is recommended that the solvent be dried to a water content of preferably 300 ppm or lower, more preferably 30 ppm or lower.

Please replace the paragraph at page 24, lines 7-21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In a nitrogen gas stream (oxygen concentration: 3 ppm or lower), 1 ml of cyclopentasilane and 10 mg of decaborane were charged into a sample tube made of quartz, agitated, and irradiated with light having a wavelength of 405 nm (light described in Example

1) emitted from a 200-W mercury xenon lamp at a distance of 10 mm from the reaction solution for 20 minutes to give a silane polymer ($M_w = 2,600$, $M_n = 1,200$). Then, after 9 ml of toluene was added to prepare a toluene 10% solution, the solution was spin-coated on a quartz substrate at 1,500 rpm and heat-treated at 400°C for 30 minutes. When the sheet resistance of this sample was measured after the sample was further heat-treated at 800°C for 5 minutes, it was ~~700 k Ω /cm²~~ 700 k Ω /sq. When the sheet resistance of the same sample heat-treated at 400°C was measured after the sample was heat-treated at 900°C for 5 minutes, it was ~~0.5 k Ω /cm²~~ 0.5 k Ω /sq.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 23, through page 25, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In a nitrogen gas stream (oxygen concentration: 3 ppm or lower), 1 ml of cyclopentasilane and 10 mg of yellow phosphorus were charged into a sample tube made of quartz, agitated, and irradiated with light having a wavelength of 405 nm (light described in Example 1) emitted from a 200-W mercury xenon lamp at a distance of 10 mm from the reaction solution for 20 minutes to give a silane polymer ($M_w = 2,250$, $M_n = 1,220$). Then, after 9 ml of toluene was added to prepare a toluene 10% solution, the solution was spin-coated on a quartz substrate at 1,500 rpm and heat-treated at 400°C for 30 minutes. When the sheet resistance of this sample was measured after the sample was further heat-treated at 800°C for 5 minutes, it was ~~50 k Ω /cm²~~ 50 k Ω /sq. When the sheet resistance of the same sample heat-treated at 400°C was measured after the sample was heat-treated at 900°C for 5 minutes, it was ~~10 k Ω /cm²~~ 10 k Ω /sq.